

# Program on Science, Technology & Society

Harvard Kennedy School

2024 Newsletter

Harvard University

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of STS@Harvard,

Once again, I write with a report on the Harvard STS Program's doings over the past year. Some represent ongoing work by students, staff, and current and former Fellows in the program. Others testify to the fact that we are not living in a hermetically sealed world. What happens outside our particular spheres of research and teaching reverberates back to shape our views of what else is important and what is yet to be done.

In the domain of ongoing work, organizers of **Graduate Research in STS** (GRiSTS) celebrated a major milestone with the 5th conference for doctoral students doing STS and STS-adjacent work at universities in the Northeast and beyond. This year's theme, **The Arts of Being Governed: Reason and Expertise in a Contested World**, drew particular interest from researchers exploring relations between states and markets, as well as more traditional questions about democracy. Harvard's **Eric Beerbohm**, Alfred and Rebecca Lin Professor of Government, addressed the discontents of the moment with a provocative keynote talk on gaslighting publics.

After years of pandemic-induced irregularities, the **Science and Democracy Network** resumed its practice of holding alternating meetings in Europe. **Margo Boenig-Liptsin** and **Gabriel Dorthe** hosted SDN's 2024 gathering at ETH Zürich in late August. Public events included a panel on co-production and another on the role of technical universities in promoting expert-led solutions to global problems in a time of rising public skepticism. Under cloudless skies, participants enjoyed the city's delights, from the Chagall windows in the Fraumünster to natural wine on the terrace of the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences.

A major event this October was the launch of the **McQuillan Institute for Science, Technology and the Human Future**, supported by the generosity of longtime STS friend and patron John McQuillan. The Institute will foster high-level scholarship in STS while also ensuring its public relevance. An all-day symposium, titled **Re-Centering Progress: Knowledge and Invention in Democratic Societies**, showcased how collaborative efforts between the Institute and academic programs can further this mission, with panels on digital futures, environmental sustainability, law and STS, and expertise and democracy.

Much in our world today feels out of control, from climate change to the rapid spread of AI into human relationships. Science and technology are deeply implicated in these global challenges. As thinkers, writers, and actual or aspiring teachers, we take comfort from knowing that our work in STS can make a difference. In that hope, we offer this year's newsletter from our program.

With cordial wishes for 2025,



Program on  
**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY**

HARVARD Kennedy School

[sts.hks.harvard.edu](https://sts.hks.harvard.edu)

# Science and Democracy Lectures

**Science and Democracy** is a lecture series exploring the promised benefits of our era's most salient scientific and technological achievements and the potentially harmful consequences of developments that are inadequately understood, debated, or managed by politicians, publics, and policy institutions. The lectures are supported by **John McQuillan** and co-sponsored by the Harvard University Center for the Environment and Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

## Shoshana Zuboff

April 10, 2024

**Shoshana Zuboff**, Charles Edward Wilson Professor Emerita at Harvard Business School and author of *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism* (2018), delivered the Spring 2024 Science and Democracy Lecture. Her talk “**Fool Me Twice: AI and Surveillance Capitalism’s Second Coming**” reflected on the evolution of population-scale extraction of data by digital platforms. Zuboff argued that liberal democracies have failed to construct an appropriate vision of democracy in the digital age. She traced a trend from the discovery of data monetization during the “dot-com” crisis of the early 2000s, to the more recent nationwide data privacy class action suit against Google. Regulatory failures, she elaborated, left a void that has been filled by “surveillance capitalism,” a private sector-led system that repurposed and continues to use the Internet for universal surveillance. The panel of respondents featured **Sven Beckert** (Laird Bell Professor of American History, Harvard University), **Mathias Risse** (Berthold Beitz Professor in Human Rights, Global Affairs and Philosophy, Harvard Kennedy School), and **Bruce Schneier** (Faculty Affiliate, Harvard Kennedy School). **Sheila Jasanoff** moderated a far-ranging discussion on more democratic ways to contend with these world-historical developments and, in Zuboff’s words, “bend the narrative arc back toward the people.”



## Re-Centering Progress: Knowledge and Invention in Democratic Societies

October 25, 2024

The STS Program helped launch the **McQuillan Institute for Science, Technology and the Human Future** (MIST) with a collaborative symposium on “**Re-Centering Progress: Knowledge and Invention in Democratic Societies**.” The event highlighted the potential of STS scholarship to inform some of the most important challenges facing human societies. Striking visuals designed by STS Ph.D. candidate **Hilton Simmet** used the motif of total eclipse and re-illumination to capture the moment. Like the total eclipse that swept across North America in spring 2024, assaults on public knowledge, truth and expertise are challenging enlightened societies. The symposium provided opportunities for hopeful reflection amidst wider political upheavals. Following an introduction by Sheila Jasanoff and an opening talk by **Craig Calhoun** (Arizona State University), panels on Digital Futures, A Renewable Earth?, Technologies of Law, and Between Expertise and Democracy brought together an impressive array of speakers including **Yamini Aiyar** (Centre for Policy Research, India), **Bill de Blasio** (Former Mayor of New York) and **Tim O’Reilly** (Founder, O’Reilly Media), as well as many current and former associates of the STS Program. Renowned Norwegian artist **Kjell Torriset**’s closing keynote reflected on how his artistic practice explores what it means to be human in an age of science and technology. His remarks focused on the mural of eyes he painted for the University of Oslo’s library — one of which graces the cover of *States of Knowledge* (Routledge 2004). More details about the symposium and the McQuillan Institute can be found [here](#).



# Re-Centering Progress in Pictures



*Clockwise from top left: Elizabeth and John McQuillan with Sheila Jasanoff; current and former associates of the STS Program; panel on A Renewable Earth?; musicians for the McQuillan Institute Inaugural Dinner, featuring Fellows and Undergraduate Fellows; panel on Digital Futures; panel on Technologies of Law.*



# Events and Initiatives

The STS Program offers a vibrant model for One Harvard through outreach not only to the College but to other professional schools and research centers, most notably the Institute for Global Law and Policy at Harvard Law School, the Harvard University Center for the Environment, the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. These broad and diverse connections have powered the Program's range of activities, including many of our public events.

## Graduate Research in STS (GRiSTS)

Harvard STS Ph.D. students were delighted to host the 5th annual conference for **Graduate Research in STS (GRiSTS)** from November 21-23 at the Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard University Center for the Environment. In a tribute to James C. Scott, GRiSTS 2024 adopted the theme **The Arts of Being Governed: Reason and Expertise in a Contested World**. The conference invited reflections on how engagements with science and technology shape the elusive demos that aspires to govern itself. The conference welcomed 28 students from 17 universities across the United States, organized into 6 faculty-moderated panels. **Eric Beerbohm**, Alfred and Rebecca Lin Professor of Government at Harvard, delivered the keynote lecture, "The Power Grab: Gaslighting & Appeals to Authority." **Sheila Jasanoff** joined him in a "fireside chat" on citizenship and credibility. The organizing committee included **Nicole Bassoff**, **Lou Lennad**, **Conor McGlynn**, **Pariroo Rattan**, **Hilton Simmet**, and **Justin Wong**. Visuals were designed by Hilton. The full program can be viewed on the [GRiSTS website](#).



Top: STS Fellows Conor McGlynn, Lou Lennad, and Andrew Stokols.  
Bottom: Professor Eric Beerbohm.

## STS Circle

The [STS Circle at Harvard](#) continued to engage with contemporary issues in science, technology and society with support from the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Chaired by STS Fellows and Ph.D. candidates **Pariroo Rattan** in the Spring and **Nicole Bassoff** in the Fall, the 2024 Circle line-up featured 21 junior scholars and senior faculty working in STS and related fields. Talks addressed topics ranging from digital technologies and energy policy to the politics of genetics and economic expertise. STS Ph.D. candidates **Hilton Simmet** and **Pariroo Rattan** and Secondary Field students **Swarnabh Ghosh** and **Spencer Doyle** presented in this year's series, as did several past Fellows and returning visitors such as **Alessandro Blasimme** of ETH Zürich.



Hilton Simmet



Pariroo Rattan and Nicole Bassoff



Alessandro Blasimme



# Events and Initiatives (cont.)

## Workshops

On April 30, Harvard STS collaborated with the Global Democracy Caucus at the Harvard Kennedy School to host the **AI & Democracy Symposium: Where Should We Go and How Do We Get There?** With support from the Ash Center for Democracy, the organizers brought together academics and policymakers to continue a conversation that began with the STS Program's [Conference on AI & Democracy](#) in Fall 2023. The event revolved around two questions: What are the impacts that AI may have on human lives and our ways of living together in the world; and how might we confront the risks of AI through more democratic, cross-sectoral, and cross-national forms of organization and action? The first panel, moderated by STS Ph.D. candidate **Nicole Bassoff**, reflected on “AI and Human Flourishing in Interdisciplinary and Comparative Perspective.” It featured **Angela Liberatore** (European Research Council), **Mathias Risse** (Harvard Kennedy School) and **Sheila Jasanoff**. Co-organizer **Freddy Guevara** (Global Democracy Caucus, HKS Nonviolent Action Lab) moderated the second panel on “Charting Pathways to Action” with **Dahlia Peterson** (U.S. Department of State), **Mark Lannigan** (Office of U.S. Senator Ed Markey), **Callum Hood** (Center for Countering Digital Hate) and **Bruce Schneier** (Harvard Kennedy School).



Nicole Bassoff



Workshop attendees and co-organizer Freddy Guevara (right)

## STS Fellows at Work and Play



Dan Affsprung taking in the MIST Launch



Oliwia Mandrela presenting at GRiSTS



Michael Cheng and Justin Wong in Beijing

# Director's News



Jay and Sheila Jasanoff in Lhasa

A highlight of the year for the STS Program as well as for Sheila personally was a joint **Harvard-Yenching Institute** and **Tsinghua University training program** on “Science, Technology, and Society (STS) in Asia: Tackling Socio-Technical Challenges from an Interdisciplinary Perspective.” Hosted in Beijing from June 17-26, the program brought together distinguished faculty from Asia and the US to train a fantastic collection of young STS scholars from the Asian region. Harvard STS Fellows **Michael Cheng** and **Justin Wong** audited the course, and trainee **Akshay Bhambri** joined the STS Fellows Program in the fall. The visit to China also offered Jay and Sheila a long-awaited opportunity to visit important Silk Road sites and Tibet, making for a truly memorable trip. Back home in Cambridge, the October launch of the McQuillan Institute created new avenues that Sheila is exploring for increasing the impact of STS research and training carried out at Harvard and by the members of the Science and Democracy Network.

For a fuller account of her research, writing, and service, visit Sheila's [website](#).

## Science and Democracy Network

The **Science and Democracy Network** held its 23rd annual meeting at ETH Zürich from August 29-31. **Margo Boenig-Liptsin** (Assistant Professor for Ethics, Technology and Society) and **Gabriel Dorthe** (Lecturer at the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences) hosted the conference, which brought together over 60 international participants. A program featuring six panels and several special sessions reflected on STS's past, present and future. **Effy Vayena** and **Vanessa Wood** from ETH Zürich led a public session on “Designing Knowledge, Engineering Society? Technical Universities and the Dilemma of Democracy” with **Sheila Jasanoff** and **Sebastian Pfotenhauer** (TU München). Harvard STS Ph.D. candidate **Pariroo Rattan** moderated a roundtable on field-building through the idiom of co-production that marked 20 years since the publication of *States of Knowledge*. Speakers included **Rob Hagendijk** (Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research), **Sheila Jasanoff**, **Stefan Schäfer** (Helmholtz Centre Potsdam), **Kaushik Sunder Rajan** (University of Chicago), and **Brian Wynne** (Emeritus, Lancaster University). The program is publicly available on the [SDN website](#), and SDN members can log in to watch recordings of the sessions.



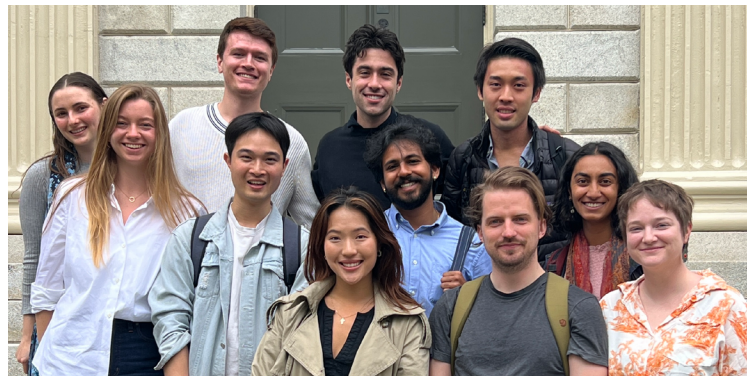
Top: Co-production roundtable. Bottom: Boenig-Liptsin and Dorthe.



# Training and Curricular Activities

## Fourteenth Annual STS Undergraduate Essay Contest

The STS Undergraduate Essay Prize Competition drew several dozen submissions from Harvard College students concentrating in subjects across the humanities and natural and social sciences. Social Studies concentrator and STS Undergraduate Fellow **Andrew Charroux** ('24) won the competition with “*Commonwealth v. Eldred: The Brain Disease Model of Addiction and Legal Deconstruction*,” which is a chapter from his thesis “*Neuromedicalizing Addiction: The Brain Disease Model of Addiction and Bioconstitutional Order*.” Honorable mentions were awarded to **Joshua Fang** ('24) and **Maya Rosen** ('25). Learn more about the prize and see past winners speak about their work [here](#).



From left to right: Maya Rosen, Henry Austin, Andrew Charroux, Michael Cheng (top); Katie Burstein, Justin Wong, Suhaas Bhat, Aishani Aatresh (middle); Lucy Tu, Hilton Simmet, Nicole Bassoff (bottom). This picture of current and former undergraduate STS students includes 6 STS Undergraduate Essay Prize awardees from the past 9 years!

## STS Undergraduate Fellowship

The STS Undergraduate Fellowship concluded the 2023-2024 school year by hosting a workshop entitled **The University in Crisis? Teaching Truth and Reason in the 21st Century**. Student and faculty panelists came together to discuss the present and future of the university as a custodian and creator of knowledge. In the fall semester, 14 students selected from a pool of over 100 applicants joined the third cohort of STS Undergraduate Fellows. Current Seniors **Katie Burstein**, **Emil Massad**, **Maya Rosen**, and **Tomas Winegar** led the group with support and guidance from **Sheila Jasanoff**, STS graduate students **Hilton Simmet** and **Justin Wong**, and former undergraduate STS Fellow **Aishani Aatresh**. Over 12 weekly sessions, Undergraduate Fellows chose topics of interest, from digital twins to elections, and discussed these cases aided by the crib sheet of core STS concepts plus guest presentations from STS Fellows. In 2025, the Undergraduate Fellows will aim to host a public-facing event about education and democracy in a digital age. The Fellowship is generously supported by the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

**Fall 2024 Undergraduate Fellows:** Elson Bankoff '27, Katie Burstein '25, Ari Cheriyann '25, Hannah Duane '25.5, Hewson Duffy '25, Silas Garcia-George '25, Emma Lucas '26, Emil Massad '25, Catherine Mignone '26, Johnny Miri '26, Thor Reimann '25, Maya Rosen '25, Josh Rosenblum '26, Matthew Thompson '26, Eshaan Vakil '25, Lea Wang '26, Tomas Winegar '25, Allegra Wong '26, Kevin Yang '28.

### Snapshots from *The University in Crisis?* Workshop



Hannah Duane (Undergrad Fellow), Professor Jeff Flier, Professor Ned Hall, Maya Rosen (Undergrad Fellow), Tomas Winegar (Undergrad Fellow), Julie Heng (former Undergrad Fellow), Eric Li, Professor Julie Reuben



Tommy Barone, Dean Amanda Claybaugh, Ari Kohn, Katie Burstein and Emil Massad (Undergrad Fellows)

## Global Observatory for Genome Editing



GLOBAL OBSERVATORY  
for Genome Editing

The Observatory's activities for 2024 began with a January convening in Bangalore, India entitled Editorial Discretion:

Transnational Governance at the Frontiers of Biotechnology. The conference drew dozens of participants from around the world to discuss how bioethical debates related to genome editing and other potentially life-altering technologies are taking shape in India and the Global South. Panelists included leaders in Indian civil society, regulatory agencies, ethics committees, public health, patient-advocacy groups, industry, and international governance bodies. In March, the Observatory hosted a workshop at the Harvard Kennedy School focused on the politics and governance of synthetic embryos. A Question of Beginnings: Lab Embryos Between Nature and Synthesis featured leading scientists, policymakers, legal experts, religious authorities, and reproductive health groups. Panels interrogated what synthetic embryos are — even whether “synthetic embryo” is the right term for these constructs — and how they relate to ideas about the meaning of human life and the protections owed to it. To close its major public activities for the academic year, the Observatory convened leading thinkers on religion, biotechnology, and ethics in a September meeting on The Promise of Life: Spiritual Traditions and Biotechnological Futures at the Harvard Kennedy School. The meeting challenged the tendency in bioethical reasoning to begin with scientific developments and privilege the presumptively secular and universalist framings questions that follow from scientific assessments. Looking to 2025, please save the date for an **International Summit** in Cambridge from **May 21-23**. This event will build on the Observatory's work over the past five years to further cultivate international, interdisciplinary, and cross-sectoral dialogue on emerging biotechnologies that are poised to alter the meaning of human life and its future. We will provide more details in the coming months and hope you will join us for this important meeting. Follow [@GenomeObserv](#) for updates, and [sign up for our mailing list](#).



Andy Murray (UPenn, former Observatory postdoc), Smita Agarwal (ConcertAI), Vijay Chaudry (Strand Life Sciences), Siddhart Jhurjhwala (Indian Institute of Science), and Johnny Kung (Canadian Institute of Advanced Research).  
Visuals designed by Hilton Simmet.

## FELLOWS in 2024

### Aishani Aatresh

A.B. in Complex Biosocial  
Systems  
Harvard College

### Daniel Affsprung

Ph.D. candidate in History and  
Philosophy of Science  
Arizona State University

### Rodrigo Araiza Bravo

Ph.D. in Physics, Secondary Field  
in STS  
Harvard University

### Henry Austin

Research Associate  
Global Observatory for  
Genome Editing

### Nicole West Bassoff

Ph.D. candidate in Public Policy  
Harvard Kennedy School

### Akshay Bhambri

ICS-Harvard-Yenching Doctoral  
Fellow

### Katie Burstein

A.B. candidate in Classics and  
History and Science  
Harvard College

### Michael Cheng

J.D..  
Harvard Law School

### Spencer Doyle

Ph.D. in Physics, Secondary Field  
in STS  
Harvard University



# Research News (cont.)

## Governance of Sociotechnical Transformations (GoST)

On May 28-29, members of the [Governance of Sociotechnical Transformations](#) team met in Cambridge to conclude several years of comparative research under the umbrella of the **Belmont Forum for Collaborative Research**. The GOST project focused on transformation to sustainability in five countries (Germany, India, Kenya, UK, US) in three areas of crucial importance for sustainable development. The closing workshop brought together prominent sustainability scholars and policy practitioners looking at these sectors and the importance of North-South linkages in advancing global sustainability efforts. It also explored how new technological developments and recent crises have reshaped the politics of transition at local, national and global levels. Led by Harvard principal investigator **Sheila Jasanoff**, the workshop also featured **Silke Beck** (TU Munich) and **Andy Sterling** (University of Sussex) along with project leaders **Bhargavi Rao** (Environment Support Group), **Christine Polzin** (Helmholtz Centre Leipzig) and **Phil Johnstone** (University of Sussex). Longtime Harvard STS graduate assistants to the project **Hilton Simmet**, **Pariroo Rattan**, and **Nicole Bassoff** helped steer the lively conversation. Members and friends of the SDN community deeply involved with sustainability studies contributed their insights, including **Clark Miller** (Arizona State University), **Tim Forsyth** (London School of Economics) and **Hugh Gusterson** (University of British Columbia). Collective thinking in the workshop was dedicated to looking at the role that imaginaries play in projecting alternative futures and the radically different political arrangements might be needed to give a more powerful voice to currently submerged futures.



Sheila Jasanoff, Akshay Mathur, Clark Miller, Andy Stirling, and Hugh Gusterson

## FELLOWS cont.

### Jeff Fossett

Ph.D. student in Business Administration, Secondary Field in STS  
Harvard Business School

### Lou Lennad

Ph.D. candidate in Public Policy  
Harvard Kennedy School

### Oliwia Mandrela

Ph.D. candidate in Sociology  
Jagiellonian University

### Connor McGlynn

Ph.D. candidate in Public Policy  
Harvard Kennedy School

### Pariroo Rattan

Ph.D. candidate in Public Policy  
Harvard Kennedy School

### Hilton Simmet

Ph.D. candidate in Public Policy  
Harvard Kennedy School

### Andrew Stokols

Lecturer in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

### Justin Wong

Ph.D. student in Public Policy  
Harvard Kennedy School

# Research News (cont.)

## Comparative COVID-19 Response (CompCoRe)



Teams for the Brazil, South Korea, Taiwan, and U.S. cases in the **CompCoRe** project met at the Harvard Kennedy School on April 5- 6. The working group, led by co-PIs **Sheila Jasanoff** and **Stephen Hilgartner** (Cornell University), continued to sharpen the analysis of divergent national responses to the COVID-19 pandemic through the lens of comparative social compacts that the project has developed over the past couple of years. Updated accounts of health, economic and political successes and failures in each country revealed important differences in delegations of power and claims to authority. Nevertheless, crises related to COVID-19 across all of the cases spoke to broader dissatisfaction with expert institutions as sites of politics, particularly regarding what powers citizens felt they had delegated and to whom. In the CompCoRe analytic framework, resistance (or the lack thereof) reflects questions about the very basis and legitimacy of public health sovereignty, that is rule by health experts, rather than faulty public understandings of risk science or vaccine efficacy.



*Shun-Ling Chen, Marko Monteiro, Stephen Hilgartner, Sheila Jasanoff, and Sang-Hyun Kim*

## STS Retreat

In early May, current and former STS Fellows gathered for an STS Retreat on the theme of Expertise, Trust and Democracy to close off the Summer School grant provided by the **Hewlett Foundation**. The retreat at a villa in Lenox, Massachusetts involved small and intense breakout groups, presentations, and roundtables to continue developing resources for STS pedagogy and training. Dedicated work sessions advanced the STS Crib Sheet, online primers for co-production and bioconstitutionalism, an annotated version of Sheila Jasanoff's Holberg Prize lecture, and potential training activities for the McQuillan Institute. The two-and-a-half days of industrious activity were full of good cheer, especially over meals, a talent show, and walks in the garden.



## RESEARCH ASSOCIATES in 2024

### **Onur Özgöde**

*Senior Research Fellow  
CompCoRe  
Assistant Professor  
Bilkent University*

### **Stefan Schäfer**

*Research Affiliate  
Harvard Solar Geoengineering  
Research Program  
Research Group Leader  
Institute for Advanced  
Sustainability Studies, Potsdam*

### **Alex Wellerstein**

*Artistic Director  
Associate Professor  
Stevens Institute of Technology*



# Fellow Milestones

The STS Program is pleased to recognize the news and accomplishments of current and former fellows.

**Aishani Aatresh** ('21-24) graduated from Harvard College and hiked Mt. Whitney to the highest point in the continental U.S. before moving to the much less mountainous U.K. and starting a Rhodes Scholarship at the University of Oxford.

**Nicole West Bassoff** ('19-25) traveled to Vienna in September to give an invited talk on the urban politics of 5G rollout at the Department of Innovation and Digitalisation in Law at the University of Vienna. While there, she also presented her dissertation research on U.S. smart cities at the ICON.S Austria Chapter Conference on *Public Law and Cities*.

**Margo Boenig-Liptsin** ('10-16) co-organized with **Nicole West Bassoff** (current) a workshop on “Constitutionalism in Digital and Environmental Transformation” at ETH Zürich in March. A number of current and former STS Fellows participated to examine the nature and political consequences of digital technologies and environmental sciences as a constitutional force since the end of the Cold War. Look out for the edited volume from the workshop in 2025/6!

**Gabriela Bortz** ('21-22) started a new position as Research Assistant Professor at the Research Center for Transformation, Economics and Business School, Universidad Nacional de San Martín. She was honored with the “Marcel Roche” Award for Young Authors by the Latin American Association of Social Studies of Science and Technology (ESOCITE) for the book chapter “Addressing inclusion and sustainability in the circulation of knowledge” (Bortz & Gázquez, 2023, in Keim & Rodriguez Medina, Routledge). Over the course of the year, she was a visiting professor or fellow in Brazil (Federal University of Paraná), Switzerland (Brocher Foundation), and Germany (Technical University of Munich).

**Laurence Delina** ('15 & '22) ranked among the world's Top 2% most-cited scientists for 2024

(career-long and single-year impact), according to the latest metrics compiled by Stanford University. [His research](#) currently focuses on extreme heat risks to vulnerable populations in urban environments.

**Sarah Delvaux's** ('22-23) forthcoming publication with **Pierre Delvenne** is titled “Futurizing ‘Good Construction(s)’: ‘low-carbon’ and ‘labor’ futures in the construction sector in Belgium” (TATuP -Zeitschrift für Technikfolgenabschätzung in Theorie und Praxis).

**Tess Doezema** ('18-19) finished working on the JUST2CE project at the Autonomous University of Barcelona in September and has started a new research position at the Post-Growth Innovation Lab at the University of Vigo. She is working on the [Prospera project](#), investigating approaches to scientific research funding in the US context that decenter economic growth.

**Rachel Douglas-Jones** ('08, '10 & '14) received a second grant from the Danish Independent Research Fund on Gamifying Green Governance in China, and was promoted to full Professor. She ends her 6 year role heading the Technologies in Practice research group at the IT University of Copenhagen this year, but remains very open to hosting STS-ers (especially PhDs).

**Karl Dudman** ('22) mostly devoted the year to completing his thesis, which he successfully defended in mid-December. In March he was awarded the RAI Sutasoma Award for Research of Potentially Outstanding Merit, and he spent the summer presenting research findings at EASST and SDN. Now, he is applying for postdocs and developing a [photography](#) project on the miscibility of Polish and Jewish identities.

**Adrian Ely** ('04-05) was promoted to Professor of Technology and Sustainability at SPRU (University of Sussex, UK). He recently completed a short project entitled “[Exploring Environmental Biotechnology as a Field](#)” with colleagues from SPRU and STIS, University of Edinburgh.

# Fellow Milestones (cont.)

**Sam Weiss Evans** ('09-11, '15-18, '19-23) is working as Senior Policy Advisor to the US National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology, a bipartisan Congressional advisory body charged with helping the US enable a safe, secure, and flourishing age of biotechnology. Sam's [portfolio](#) covers how it might all go wrong, and who gets to decide what "going right" looks like.

**Pericles Gonçalves** ('22-23) received students, professors, and friends at FGV Law Rio in November 2024 for the launch of his book [Risk regulation in Brazil: the role of science in the regulatory process](#). The book reflects the research he conducted as a Fellow in the STS Program.

**Johanna Höffken** ('10) is happily exploring collaborations at the nexus of STS and social studies of energy.

**Wanheng Hu** ('22-23) started an Embedded Ethics Postdoctoral Fellowship at Stanford University's McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society and the Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence. With Ranjit Singh, he co-authored "[Enrolling Citizens: A Primer on Archetypes of Democratic Engagement with AI](#)," published by the Data & Society Research Institute.

**Karen Huang** ('19-20) and **Jacob Moses** ('15-17) were awarded an NSF grant (from the Program on STS) for their collaborative [project](#), "Behavioral science and the making of the right-reasoning public health citizenry" (2024-2026).

**Christopher Kirchoff** ('05-08) published a book entitled [Unit X: How the Pentagon and Silicon Valley are Transforming the Future of War](#) (Simon & Schuster) — a finalist for the Financial Times Best Book of 2024.

**Oliwia Mandrela** ('24-25) received a pre-doctoral grant from the National Science Center of Poland for her project, "The Quest for Longevity: Biotechnological Revolution and Public Reason."

**Ian McGonigle** ('13-14) licensed two feature documentary films with Salt Media for distribution in parts of Southeast Asia: [Technologies of the Soul: Ancient Wisdom in the Smart Nation](#), a documentary about technological change in contemporary Singapore, and [Redemption: Wine and Prophecy in the Land of Israel](#), an ethnographic film on religious nationalism in Israel. His latest project is [Settler-Indigeneity in the West Bank](#).

**Pariroo Rattan** ('19-25) helped organize a virtual seminar series, *Contemporary Critical Thought*, that brought together scholars across the world on a biweekly basis this fall. She gave talks at the *Jurisprudence of Distribution* workshop organized by critical legal scholars Aziza Ahmed, Paulo Barrozo and Duncan Kennedy, and at the Tufts STS lunch seminar. In October, her [op-ed](#) "The Politics of Data-Based Policymaking" was published in an Indian daily newspaper, *The Hindu*.

**Hilton Simmet** ('16-17, '18-25) is finishing his dissertation this spring on epistemic and normative conceptions of inequality in France, India and the US. This past year he [published an article](#) in *Social Studies of Science* on the relationship between political theory and co-productionist STS.

**Angela Simone** ('10) is the Coordinator of the 50-month EU Commission-funded project REINFORCING, aiming to implement a virtual hub on Open and Responsible Research and Innovation. She was also selected to co-lead the EU Commission's Mutual Learning Exercise in Public Engagement in R&I. In this capacity, she was responsible for an event in Berlin in November 2024, organized along with the German Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung.

**Holger Straßheim** ('14) is one of the three founding directors of Bielefeld University, Germany's Institute for Interdisciplinary Science Studies (ISOS). ISOS offers an international master's program dedicated to providing cross-disciplinary insights into intertwinements between science and society. His latest [project](#) concerns ethics advice for policymakers in times of crisis.



# Parting Shots



*This map resides in the Fellows Office and shows the global scope of the STS Program over the last 20 years.*



*Harvard STS Fellows, October 2024*

## STAY CONNECTED

Are you a former fellow and don't see your pin on the map? Email us at [sts@hks.harvard.edu](mailto:sts@hks.harvard.edu) with the location you came from during your fellowship and we will add it!

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# STS

**PROGRAM ON SCIENCE,  
TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY**

*2024 Newsletter photos courtesy  
Aishani Aatresh, Henry Austin,  
Sheila Jasanoff, Hilton Simmet,  
and Bethany Versoy*